

# News

U.S. Department of Labor  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
PO Box 193766  
San Francisco, Calif. 94119-3766



---

**CONTACT:**

Stanley P. Stephenson (415) 975-4373  
Nancy A. Treadwell (415) 975-4403  
Internet address: <http://stats.bls.gov/ro9news.htm>  
Fax-On-Demand (415) 975-4567 Code: #9130

**BLS 01-14**  
**FOR RELEASE:**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2001**

## **HONOLULU CONSUMER PRICES UP 0.5 PERCENT IN THE SECOND HALF OF 2000—1.7 PERCENT ABOVE A YEAR AGO**

Consumer prices in the Honolulu metropolitan area rose 0.5 percent in the second half of 2000 according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Regional Commissioner Stanley P. Stephenson said compared to the same period a year ago, prices increased 1.7 percent. The area's Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) advanced to 176.7 (1982-84=100) during the second half of 2000. This means a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84 would have cost \$176.70 during the past six months. Local area CPI data are not seasonally adjusted.

An equal number of major expenditure categories advanced as declined, combining to yield a modest overall increase in the index during the past six-month period. Transportation provided the greatest upward pressure on the overall index while the food and beverages category provided the greatest downward pressure.

The overall transportation index increased 2.3 percent in the second half of 2000, and measured 5.9 percent higher than last year's level. Private transportation costs were 2.5 percent higher over the latest six-month period and up 5.4 percent over-the-year. Gasoline prices continued to surge, rising 10.1 percent in the past six months and 26.0 percent over-the-year. The over-the-year increase was the largest since November 1980, when it measured 26.8 percent.

Medical care costs increased 3.3 percent in the last six months, the largest percentage gain of all eight major expenditure categories. Compared to a year ago, medical care costs are up 5.3 percent in the Honolulu metropolitan area.

Overall housing costs rose 0.7 percent during the second half of 2000 and are up 1.4 percent from the same period in 1999. In the past six months, the shelter component advanced 0.3 percent, fuels and utilities increased 3.8 percent, and household furnishings and operations rose 0.9 percent. Compared to a year ago, shelter advanced 0.5 percent, fuels and utilities jumped 9.5 percent, and household furnishings and operations increased 3.5 percent.

The miscellaneous other goods and services index advanced 1.6 percent in the past six months and 1.7 percent over the year.

Apparel prices declined 1.8 percent in the second half of 2000 and dropped 2.2 percent for the past 12 months.

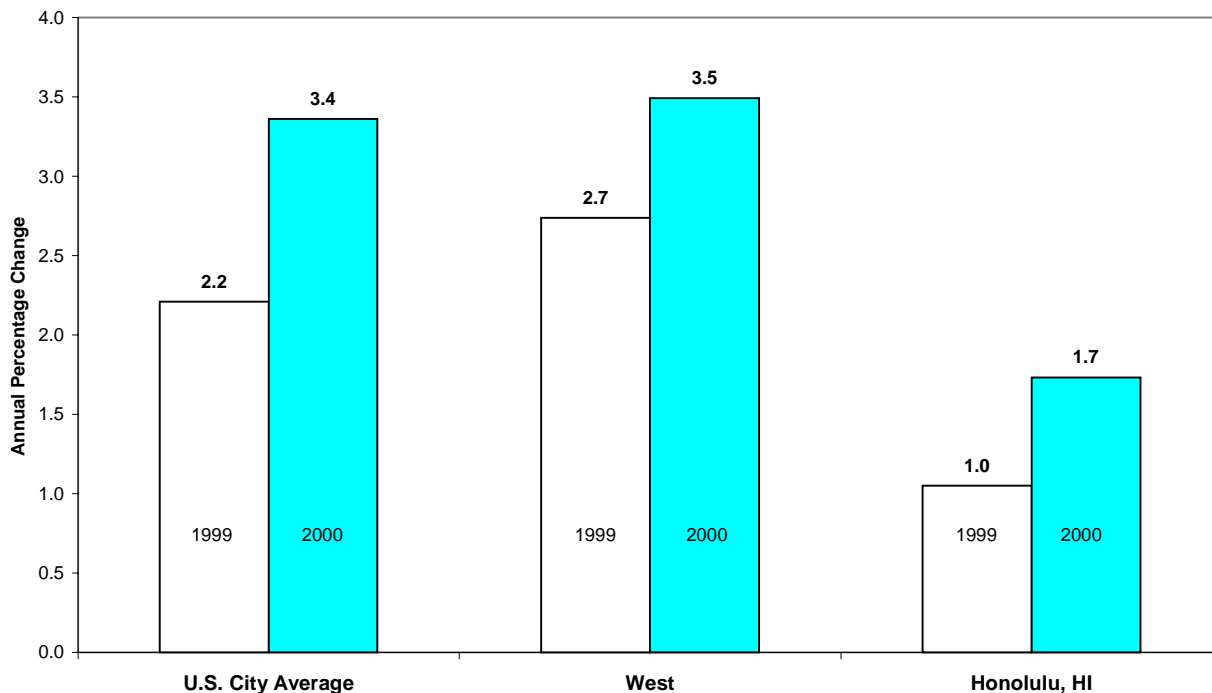
The overall cost of food and beverages declined 0.8 percent in the second half of 2000. Grocery prices, as represented by the food at home index, decreased 1.6 percent in the same period. The cost of dining out increased 0.3 percent while prices paid for alcoholic beverages were unchanged in the past six months. For the past 12 months, the overall food and beverages' index rose 0.4 percent.

Recreation costs declined 0.5 percent in the past six months, but inched up 0.1 percent over the year.

The education and communication index declined 1.6 percent during the second half of 2000 and is down 0.8 percent from a year ago.

The annual average for the all items index for the greater Honolulu area rose 1.7 percent in 2000, following a 1.0 percent gain in 1999. For both 1999 and 2000, Honolulu's annual average increases were below the nation and the West region. Nationally, the annual average advance for 1999 and 2000 was 2.2 percent and 3.4 percent, respectively. The West region's annual average increase was 2.7 percent in 1999 and 3.5 percent in 2000.

#### Annual Average - All items CPI-U



Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes  
for selected periods  
Honolulu, HI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent	change to
	2nd half 1999	1st half 2000	2nd half 2000	2nd half 1999	2000 from-
Expenditure category					
All items .....	173.8	175.9	176.7	1.7	0.5
All items (1967=100) .....	478.5	R484.3	486.5	-	-
Food and beverages .....	163.5	165.5	164.1	0.4	-0.8
Food .....	163.7	165.6	164.0	0.2	-1.0
Food at home .....	166.7	168.2	165.5	-0.7	-1.6
Food away from home .....	159.4	159.8	160.2	0.5	0.3
Alcoholic beverages .....	159.5	163.9	163.9	2.8	0.0
Housing .....	176.0	177.3	178.5	1.4	0.7
Shelter .....	191.2	191.6	192.1	0.5	0.3
Rent of primary residence .....	181.0	180.0	180.5	-0.3	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (1) .....	196.6	R196.1	196.5	-0.1	0.2
Fuels and utilities .....	137.2	144.7	150.2	9.5	3.8
Fuels .....	118.4	127.6	133.9	13.1	4.9
Gas (piped) and electricity .....	117.8	126.8	132.7	12.6	4.7
Electricity .....	117.3	126.2	132.0	12.5	4.6
Utility natural gas service .....	114.0	123.4	130.2	14.2	5.5
Household furnishings and operations .....	147.8	151.7	153.0	3.5	0.9
Apparel .....	104.9	104.5	102.6	-2.2	-1.8
Transportation .....	162.0	167.7	171.5	5.9	2.3
Private transportation .....	160.3	164.9	169.0	5.4	2.5
Motor fuel .....	118.0	134.9	148.7	26.0	10.2
Gasoline (all types) .....	120.5	137.9	151.8	26.0	10.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular (2).....	126.8	144.6	158.9	25.3	9.9
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade (2) (3).....	93.7	108.6	120.4	28.5	10.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium (2).....	110.1	126.1	139.3	26.5	10.5
Medical care .....	231.5	235.9	243.8	5.3	3.3
Recreation (4).....	102.5	103.1	102.6	0.1	-0.5
Education and communication (4).....	106.4	107.3	105.6	-0.8	-1.6
Other goods and services .....	277.3	277.5	281.9	1.7	1.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periods  
Honolulu, HI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (Continued)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent	change to
	2nd half 1999	1st half 2000	2nd half 2000	2nd half 1999	2000 from-
Commodity and service group					
All items .....	173.8	175.9	176.7	1.7	0.5
Commodities .....	148.6	150.4	150.3	1.1	-0.1
Commodities less food and beverages .....	136.8	138.5	139.4	1.9	0.6
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	141.5	144.5	147.7	4.4	2.2
Durables .....	129.6	129.6	127.4	-1.7	-1.7
Services .....	195.9	198.3	199.9	2.0	0.8
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care .....	170.7	172.7	173.3	1.5	0.3
All items less shelter .....	167.1	170.1	171.0	2.3	0.5
Commodities less food .....	137.8	139.7	140.5	2.0	0.6
Nondurables .....	153.8	156.2	156.8	2.0	0.4
Nondurables less food .....	142.7	145.8	148.8	4.3	2.1
Services less rent of shelter (1) .....	203.9	209.0	211.8	3.9	1.3
Services less medical care services .....	192.8	194.9	196.1	1.7	0.6
Energy .....	119.3	132.1	141.8	18.9	7.3
All items less energy .....	179.1	180.6	180.8	0.9	0.1
All items less food and energy .....	183.4	184.7	185.5	1.1	0.4

1 Index is on a November 1982=100 base.

2 Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

3 Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

4 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

R Revised.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.